ready been commissioned on 15.10.1989 and Alleppey-Kayankulam section is targetted for opening in 1991-92. When completed, it will provide two single lines between Ernakulam and Kayankulam-one via Alleppey and the other via Kottayam — the existing route. Doubling between Kayankulam and Quilon (41 km) was approved in the Budget for 1989-90 and the work has already been started. Doubling between Quilon-Trivandrum (65 kms.) has been included in the Budget for 1990-91. Completion of doubling on Kayankulam-Quilon-Trivandrum will depend upon the availability of resources in the coming years.

Procurement of wheat

913. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India has achieved this year's (1991-92) target of procurement of wheat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have sufficient stock of wheat for 1991-92 to meet the demand/supply of wheat in the country; and

(d) what are the last year 1990-91 figure of procurement/stock and supply of wheat State-wise as compared to the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) No target is fixed, as wheat is procured against voluntary offers by farmers under Government's price support operations. During the current rabi marketing season 1991-92, as on 19.7.91, 77.46 lakh tonnes of wheat has been procured by the Food Corporation of India in collaboration with the States procuring agencies.

(c) As on 1.7.91, the total availability of wheat stock works out to 10.79 million tonnes, which is considered sufficient to meet the requirements of PDS and other Welfare Schemes for the period from July, 1991 to March, 1992.

(d) Two statements showing State-wise procurement of wheat made in the Rabi marketing season 1990-91 and supplies/offtake of wheat from central pool 1990-91 (April-March) are attached. [*See* Appendix 159, Annexure No. 28] The stocks of wheat in the Central pool on 1.4.90 and 31.3.1991 were 3.42 & 5.65 million tonnes respectively.

Draft National policy on Agriculture

914. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Draft National policy on Agriculture has been formulated and considered by Government;

(b) whether the Draft policy has been circulated to the State Governments and the Agricultural Universities to elicit their views;

(c) if so, the response of the State Governments/Universities thereto;

(d) by when, the policy is likely to be placed before both Houses of Parliament; and

(e) when a similar policy had last been framed and what were its impacts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) A draft of an Agricultural policy Resolution formulated in March, 1991 had been circulated to the State Governments and U.Ts and Agricultural Universities for eliciting their comments. Five States/U.Ts and 7 Agricultural Universities have sent their comments. After the receipt of comments from the State Governments further action will be taken.

(e) No comprehensive Agricultural policy Resolution has been placed before the Parliament in the recent past.